





HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

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HOWARD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD (APB) AND STATE AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD (APAB)

March 28, 2022

Attendance:

Board Members: Mickey Day

Ann Jones (Vice Chair)

Cathy Hudson Jamie Brown Abby Gibbon Savannah Kaiss

Staff: James Zoller, Executive Secretary/Agricultural Coordinator (OCS)

Joy Levy, Program Administrator, (ALPP)

Matthew Hoover, Administrative Aide, (OCS)

Lauren McDonald, Planner One, Resource Conservation Division

Morenike Oyenusi, Senior Assistant County Solicitor Beth Burgess, Chief, Resource Conservation Division

Guest: R. Alan Ewing

Action Items

1. Minutes from the meeting of January 24, 2022 and February 28, 2022

Ms. Jones motioned to approve the minutes from January 24, 2022 and Ms. Kaiss seconded the motion. All members in attendance approved the motion.

Ms. Kaiss motioned to approve the minutes from February 28, 2022 and Ms. Hudson seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor of the motion.

2. Review and approve recommendations for future use of Howard Agricultural Land Preservation Fund

Some of the administrative cost and programs that the funds are being used for currently were reviewed with the Board. The Board also reviewed and discussed the estimated funds available. The purpose from the Howard County Code for the Agricultural Preservation Act was provided to the Board.

The Board reviewed the FY23 Agricultural Preservation Fund Proposal list, that was compiled together from previous meetings, and they ranked each item as low, medium, high or to continue funding. The Board was

made aware of the items on the list that funding was already requested for in the FY23 budget. During the discussion, the APB mentioned wanting to receive a report back on how the funds are being spent and they want updates on how the programs are doing. They also want to provide input for the programs that are using agricultural preservation funds. A letter to the County Executive, with the APB's suggestions, is going to be drafted.

Discussion Items

1. Program Updates

Two properties settled on March 9, 2022. The two O'Keefe properties that were reviewed during the last meeting have accepted the informal offer letter and a formal commitment letter is being created.

There is a person interested in MALPF that wanted to apply last year and they are hoping to be able to apply this year.

Public Testimony

No public testimony.

Meeting Adjourned

Mr. Brown motioned for adjournment and Ms. Jones seconded it. All board members approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.